

DOS REVIEWED 27-Dec-2010: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

*****C O N F I D E N T I A L*****S C O P Y

REFER TO DOS

OP IMMED
 FSA4310RA616
 DE RUEOR #2959 2791002
 D 061000Z OCT 73
 FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3887

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 2658
 AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 3507
 AMEMBASSY JIDDA 1605
 AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 1135
 AMEMBASSY LONDON 1450
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1538
 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 3276
 AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 1461
 USMISSION USUN 2186

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2459

EO 11652: GDS
 TAGS: MOPS EG PFOR
 SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS COVERAGE OF EGYPTIAN MILITAR
 PREPAREDNESS

1. OCTOBER 6 AHRAH'S HEADLINE, "TENSION EVELOPS FIGHTING FRONTS AND INTENSIFIES ON SUEZ CANAL FRONT," IS FOLLOWED BY LEAD ARTICLE STATING THAT "ALL" BORDERS WITH ISRAEL ARE IN STATE OF ALERT, PARTICULARLY SUEZ CANAL AREA. AHRAH DRAWS ON NEWS AGENCY REPORTS FROM TEL AVIV TO PORTRAY INCREASING TENSION.

2. AHRAH'S COVERAGE OF STORY IS GENERALLY PARALLELED BY AKHBAR, WHICH DRAWS ON REPORTS FROM BEIRUT QUOTING RESISTANCE SOURCES TO EFFECT THAT ISRAELIS ARE MASSING ON BORDERS OF SYRIA AND LEBANON. AKHBAR'S STORY DOES NOT MENTION SUEZ CANAL FRONT AT ALL.

3. GUMHURIYYA FOCUSES ON LAIRE'S BREAK OF RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL.

4. COMMENT: COVERAGE IS NOT ORCHESTRATED, AND PLAY DOES NOT INDICATE THAT CAMPAIGN OF PUBLIC PREPARATION FOR HOSTILITIES HAS BEGUN. RATHER, WE SEE TODAY'S PRESS REPORTS

*****WHSR COMMENT*****

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AS INDICATING THAT, THROUGH AHRAH, GDE HAS CHOSEN TO
ACKNOWLEDGE STATE OF ALERT, BUT IS NOT FANNING FLAMES OF
EXPECTATION.

5. DUALITY OF APPROACH IS EMPHASIZED BY FACT THAT AHRAH'S
MAIN PICTURE ON PAGE ONE, ACCOMPANIED BY STORY, IS THAT
OF SECSTATE KISSINGER AND EGYPTIAN FOMIN ZAYYAT SHAKING
HANDS AND SMILING AT EACH OTHER.

SMITH

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